

Gear Technology Panel

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Panelists

- **Marianne Cufone** – Gulf Restoration Network
- **George Geiger** – Inshore Fishing Guide, CCA, South Atlantic Council Vice-Chairman
- **Gary Graham** – Texas Sea Grant
- **Dennis Klemm** – NOAA Fisheries Service, SERO Protected Resources Division
- **Lindsey Parker** – University of GA – Marine Extension Service
- **Ron Smolowitz** – Consultant, former Commanding Officer – NOAA Ship Albatross, NEFMC advisor
- **Bill Teehan** – Biological Administrator, FWC Division of Marine Fisheries Management
- **John Watson** – NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
- **Mike Baker*** – Commercial Fisherman

Participants

- Mike Baker – Commercial fisherman, President – Southeast Shark Net Fishing Assoc.
- Kevin Brown – N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- Shawn Dick – ARC Dehooker, Inc.
- Tanya Dobrzynski – NOAA Fisheries, Office of Protected Resources, Silver Spring
- David Hill – ARC Dehooker, Inc.
- Gwen Hughes – Gulf & South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation
- Judy Jamison – Gulf & South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation
- Blake Price – N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
- Gil Radonski – ARC Dehooker, Inc.
- Kristin Roalie – ARC Dehooker, Inc.
- Amber Von Harten – S.C. Sea Grant Extension, Fisheries
- Kate Wells – NOAA Fisheries, SERO Protected Resources Division

Special Thanks

- Peter Hood – NMFS Sustainable Fisheries, SERO
- Sarah DeVido – NOAA Fisheries, SERO Sustainable Fisheries
- Sarah Heberling – NOAA Fisheries, SERO Protected Resources Division
- Kim Iverson - SAFMC

Special Thanks, Continued

- Roy Crabtree
- Ginny Fay
- Jack McGovern

Gear Questions

- *What recreational fisheries, commercial fisheries, and gear pose the greatest bycatch issues in the Southeast?*
- *How can we build a better information bridge between researchers and fishermen?*
- *Gear research is conducted worldwide. How do we ensure that the results of this research becomes part of the management process?*

Major Categories

- Gear technology
- Technology transfer/education
- Implementation

Gear Technology

1. Handling of bycatch species to reduce mortality
(venting, release at depth, hook removal,
retrieval speed, predation, hopper systems)
2. Gear research approved as scientific research
(streamline gear development process)
3. Programmatic Section 7 set aside for gear
research (take allotment for PR with research)

Gear Technology

4. Conditional certification of fishing gear to spawn further development – decertification over time
5. Investigate alternative trawl designs
6. Low impact mobile design
7. Peer review of industry research

Technology Transfer

- Traditional local workshops
- Result and method demonstrations
- Local contact
- NGO presentations
- Small group waterfront contacts
- Videos
- Publications
- Newsletters
- Webpages

Technology Transfer, Cont'd

- Outdoor writer's associations
- Newspaper/fishing periodical articles
- Elementary/youth education
- Incentives
- Continuing education linked to permitting
- Extension-based gear workshop
- Annual publication
- Listserv on bycatch gear

Implementation

- Agency coordinator: NOAA? NMFS?
- SK funds for development of gear research and technology transfer/education
- Fishery development (utilization) of bycatch species
- Regular report (annual or biennial) on National Std. 9 with chapter on gear technology

Tools to be Implemented

Short Term

- Circle Hooks
- Venting tools
- De-hookers
- Barbless Hooks

Tools to be Implemented

Mid Term

- Low profile gillnets

Tools to be Implemented

Long Term

- Hoppers (Deck sorters)
- Net/webbing design
- Cages (returning fish to water column; reduce F)